# Evaluating Growth and Transportation Options in the Metropolitan Washington Region

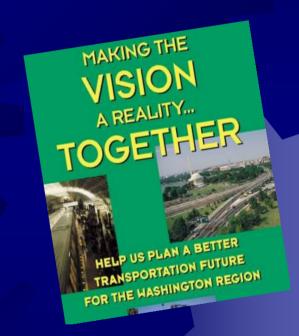
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Transportation Accountability Commission Outcome Measures Subcommittee Meeting May 16, 2007

### The TPB Vision Approved in 1998

- A policy framework guiding the region's transportation investments in the 21st century.
- Goals include:
  - Promoting activity centers
  - Increasing transit use
  - Reducing driving

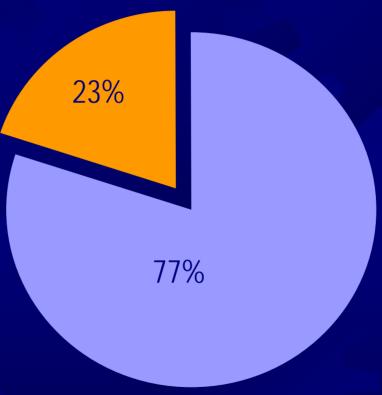


In 2000, the TPB recognized that in many respects, the region's long-range transportation plan was falling short of the Vision...

#### Most Transportation Dollars Are Needed for Maintenance

Little money is available for new transportation projects

New Roads and Transit\*



Operations & Preservation\*

# The Highway System Won't Keep Pace with Growth

Forecast Trends 2000 - 2030

#### Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled

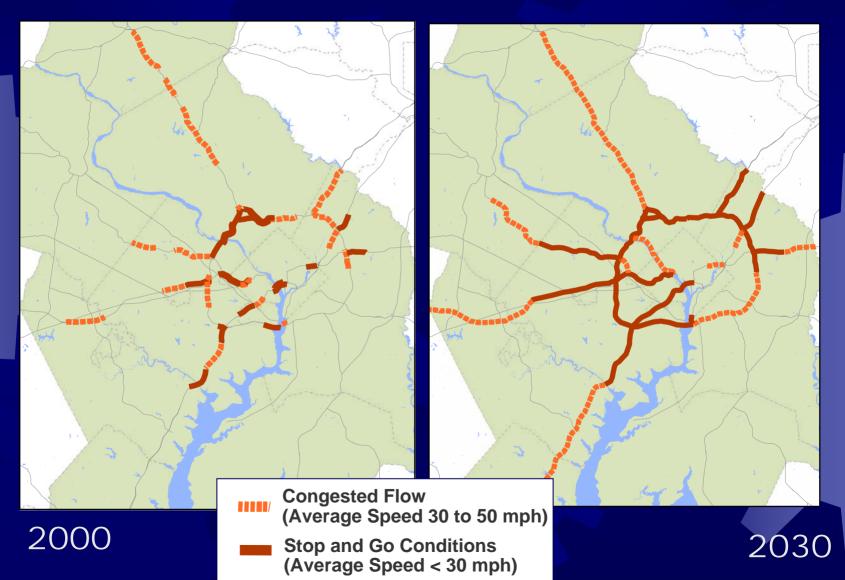
2000: 109 Million 2030: 150 Million

Freeway and Arterial Lane Miles

2000: 15,300 Miles 2030: 17,600 Miles 16%

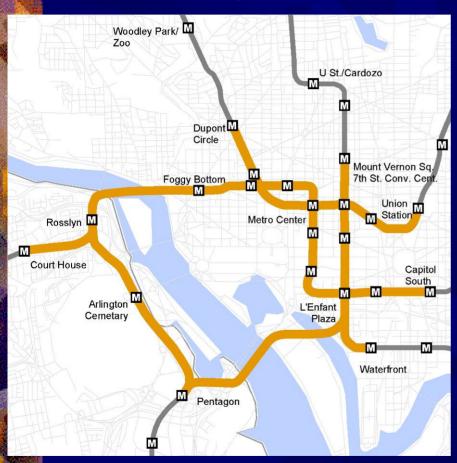
#### Most of the Beltway Will Be Stop and Go

Evening Highway Congestion 2000 and 2030



### Metro Platforms and Trains Will Be Packed

Morning Peak-Hour Transit Congestion: 2000 and 2030





2000

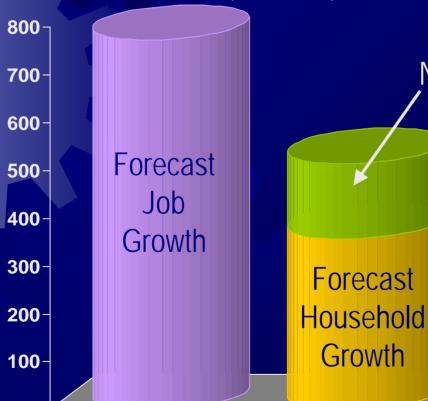
Congested
Highly Congested

2030

What are Key issues related to land use and transportation?

# Issue #1: Job Growth is Outpacing Household Growth

Growth 2010 – 2030 (Thousands)



Additional Households Needed to Balance Jobs

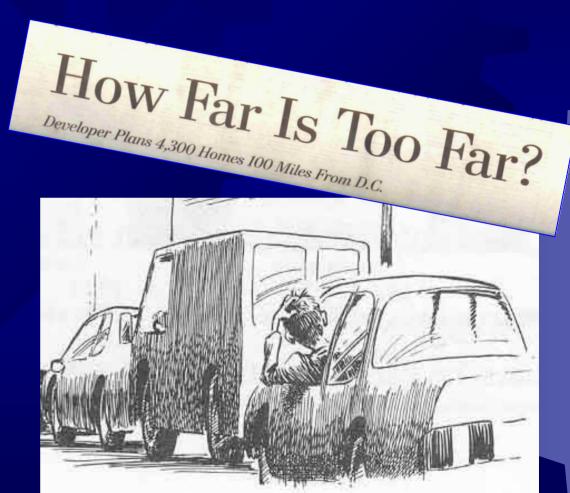
The region must "import" workers from as far away as West Virginia and Pennsylvania

Assumes 1.5 Workers/Household

# Issue #2: Workers are Living Farther Away from Their Jobs

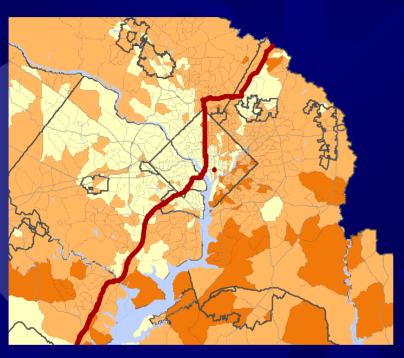
Inner jurisdictions – most job growth

Outer jurisdictions – lion's share of household growth



#### Issue #3: East-West Divide

West-bound travel clogs the roads during morning rush hour

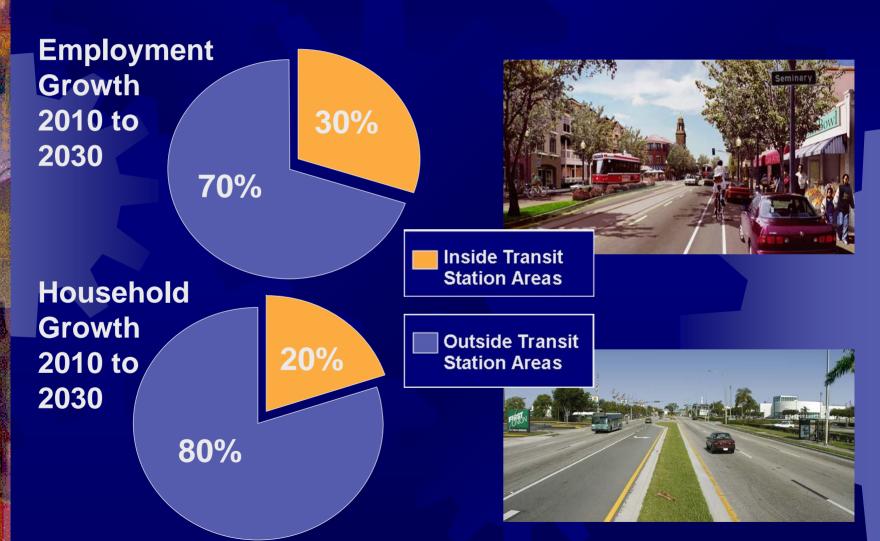


#### **Average Commute Time**

- Up to 30 minutes
- Up to 40 minutes
- Over 40 minutes



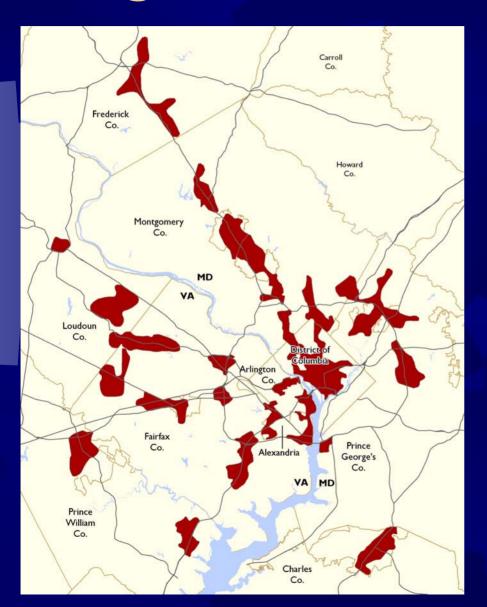
### Issue #4: Most Growth Located Outside Transit Station Areas



# Study of "What If" Scenarios

- What if job and housing growth were shifted? What if new roads or transit were built?
- How would 2030 travel conditions change?

#### Regional Activity Centers



Intended to be focal points for jobs and housing, and nodes for transportation linkages.

#### Five Alternative Scenarios

- \* "More Households" Scenario
- \* "Households In" Scenario
- \* "Jobs Out" Scenario
- \* "Region Undivided" Scenario
- \* Transit-Oriented Development" Scenario

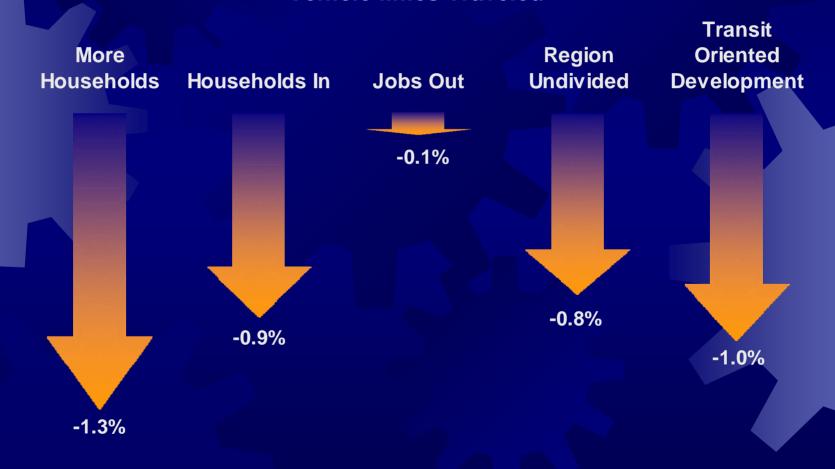
Evaluating the Scenarios:

How would future travel conditions change?

#### Driving would decrease

Compared to baseline forecasts for 2030

#### **Vehicle Miles Traveled**



# Under the "More Households" scenario, the average person would drive 2 miles less per day . . .



#### Daily vehicle miles traveled per person

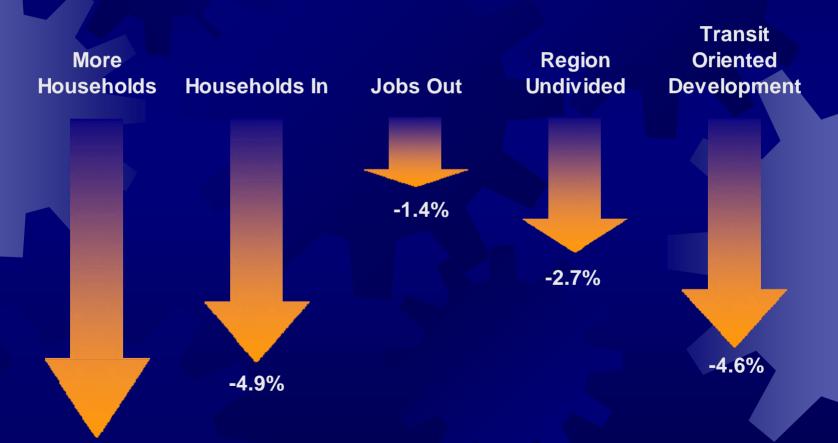
Baseline: 24

"More Households": 22

#### Congestion would decrease

Compared to baseline forecasts for 2030

#### Lane Miles of Severe AM Peak Period Congestion



-6.4%

#### Transit use would increase\*

Compared to baseline forecasts for 2030



### Walk and bike commuting would increase\*

Compared to baseline forecasts for 2030



# Key Findings: What do the scenarios tell us?

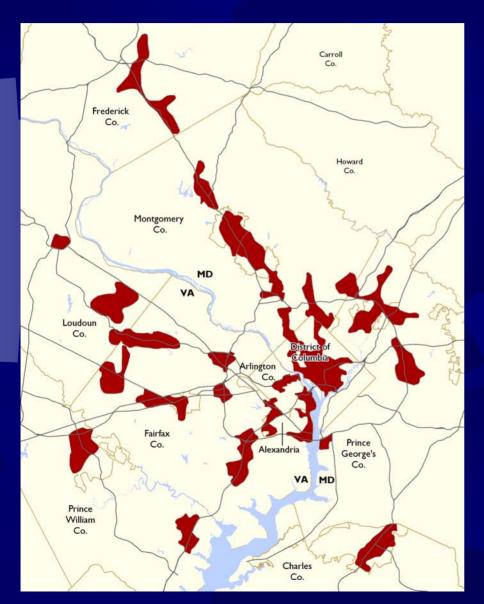
- Increasing household growth and concentrating that growth in regional activity centers would
  - ncrease transit use, walking and biking
  - decrease driving and congestion

# How has the study been used so far?

- Development of COG's Round 7.0 cooperative forecasts for population and employment growth
  - Includes 2/3 of new households assumed under the "More Households" scenario



### More Household Growth Now Planned for Regional Activity Centers



Regional Activity **Center Clusters** are now forecast to capture 42% of the region's future household growth, up from the 30% previously forecast

### Scenario Study Performance Measures

- Jobs/Housing & Jobs/Workers ratios
- % of future jobs and household growth in in regional activity centers
- Jobs & households within ¼ and ½ mile of a transit station
- Spatial pattern of job and household growth
- Land area used to accommodate 90% region's jobs and housing

### Scenario Study Performance Measures (cont)

- Commuting travel modal shares
- Per Capita Vehicle Miles Traveled
- Highway and transit congestion levels
- Accessibility by travel mode
- Air Quality mobile emissions
- Water Quality Indicators

#### For More Info:

http://www.mwcog.org/transportation/activities/regional/